

THE INDEPENDENT

Helena, Mont., Jan. 29, 1899

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF MONTANA AND
LEWIS AND CLARKE COUNTY.

The INDEPENDENT has a larger daily circulation than any newspaper between St. Paul and Portland and a larger circulation than any other two daily papers published in Montana. It has no press room secrets; its subscription books are open to inspection, and it is always ready to prove that its circulation is as represented.

THE SCHOOL LAWS.

The feeling both in Helena and Butte is decidedly in favor of the enactment of a law which shall put the control of the public schools in each of the cities named in the hands of a board of trustees consisting of at least one member from each ward, and selected with some reference to the plating of the city. As at present constituted there is nothing in the law to prevent all three members of the Helena school board being residents of the same ward or, for that matter, tenants of the same building. It is inevitable that such a condition of affairs should sooner or later cause dissatisfaction to the residents of one section or another; that it has not already done so is testimony to the fairness of the gentlemen who at present compose the board.

But aside from the question of representation of the several wards of the city it is unquestionable that the interests of the schools would be better served were there seven trustees in Helena instead of three as at present. In view of the multiplicity of personal and official duties devolving upon the gentlemen composing the Helena board it is not to be wondered at that there is loss of inspection of the schools that there should be. The good of the schools requires frequent visitations by the trustees; with the larger boards such inspection would be less a burden upon individual members than it now is and as the constant growth of the city in population will make it.

The superintendent of public instruction has called the attention of the legislature to a number of points in which the school laws require remodeling. It is a question of grave doubt if the provision limiting the use of any one particular set of text books to a certain period of time for the best interests of pupils or teachers. The frequent changing of text books imposes a burden upon parents that often results in the withdrawal of children from the schools. The section of the law regarding compulsory education is at best inoperative because of its indefiniteness, and if it is not entirely repealed it should be amended so that it will mean something and cease to be one of the many dead letters that mar the territorial statute book. In fact the legislature can spend a few days very profitably in consideration of the school laws of the territory, which were, as a rule, framed for a much more primitive condition than now exists in Montana.

THE SPOILS HUNTERS.

Intriguing for a place under the coming republican administration has not only begun in this territory but has progressed to a point where it has aroused the alarm and indignation of the friends of other aspirants for office and their friends. It is openly charged that by virtue of his position on the territorial campaign committee one prominent republican has presumed to call a conference of republicans, supposed to be leaders also, to be held in Helena during the last week of the session of the legislature, for the purpose of deciding who shall be recommended to Gen. Harrison for appointment to the several offices within the gift of the president. The proposed conference, say those who have not been consulted, would be all right had the invitations been sent to the bona fide leaders of the party, but it is alleged that the committee has honored only such persons as he feels confident will look with favor upon his candidacy for the governorship. It is alleged that this scheme is to forestall the will of the people by "packing the jury" in his own interest. Just how well the scheme will work time will tell. The effect thus far has been to excite the hostility of a very strong element of the party.

Recently a Helena republican who has an ambition to serve the territory as secretary made a pilgrimage to the east, of course merely for the purpose of visiting relatives; but it has leaked out that he made it convenient to stop off at Indianapolis, that Mecca of all good republicans, for a day. What he accomplished, if anything, has not been disclosed. At present he is too busy lobbying against Hunt's anti-sure-thing bill to busy words about his hopes and aspirations. There are, however, several republicans who are office holders who are camping on his trail, and Butte especially is making a strong pull for the position.

In fact there are a score or more of applicants for every position in the territory within the gift of the president, as ravenous as Choteau county wolves after a fortnight's abstinence from food, and the prospect is that they will be rending each other before they succeed in running down their quarry.

The article printed in the North American Review, last month, over the signature of Mary Anderson, the Anglo-Kentuckian actress, is now alleged to have emanated from the brain of a New York "literary fellow," and Mary's portion of the intellectual labor, it is said, was the mere signing of the article. According to distinguished authorities Mary has good precedents for such conduct, for it has long been argued that the player

Shakespeare lent the magic of his name to plays written by Lord Francis Bacon and others of his time. There is no danger, however, that such literary productions as the North American Review article will cause Kentucky Mary to live in history as an authoress when she has been forgotten as an actress.

A FRENCH CRISIS.

Gen. Boulanger has carried the enemy's outer works and is moving upon the citadel.

In plain terms, having been elected to the chamber of deputies by the people of Paris by more than 54,000 majority, Gen. Boulanger's next move will be towards the presidency of the French republic. Such is the programme announced by the general prior to the election, and audacity has accomplished so much in France that it would not be surprising if Boulanger should reach that goal of his ambition.

The president of France is elected for seven years. M. Sadi Carnot is the fourth president of the second republic. Thiers, the historian, was the first, and, having held the office for two years, resigned in May, 1873; he was succeeded by Marshal MacMahon, who resigned fifteen months before the expiration of his term because the Dufaure cabinet persisted in an anti-republican policy, in which it was upheld by the chambers. Jules Grevy was elected in his stead, and re-elected in 1895, but the scandals in which his son-in-law, Daniel Wilson, involved the administration brought on ministerial crisis after crisis, until the aged and broken-down president was forced to resign, and on Dec. 3, 1895, Carnot was elected to the presidency. For a time it seemed impossible for Carnot to find a cabinet, and it was doubted if he would be able to execute his office, because of the bitterly hostile but evenly balanced factions in the chambers. While the president is chosen for a term of seven years, if he cannot organize a cabinet which shall have the support of the chambers no alternative but resignation is open to him. The Floquet cabinet has been recognized as an expedient merely, and has never possessed inherent strength. Nearly a year ago it distinguished itself by declaring vacant the seat in the assembly to which Boulanger had been elected. This led to the famous duel between Floquet and Boulanger, in which the former, who scarcely knew the difference between a sword and a gun-sword, wounded his adversary, a skilled swordsman, in the neck. The outcome of the affair cast a great deal of ridicule upon Boulanger, and for a time his sun was in eclipse.

Boulanger is 52 years of age. His career has been a remarkable one, almost meteoric in its brilliancy. It was in 1887 that he was first mentioned by the Berlin (Germany) Nation: "His career has been a rapid and fortunate one. During the war in Italy he is hit by a ball in the chest and left for dead on the field; he recovers, however, and as simple second lieutenant receives the cross of the Legion of Honor. In 1890, China, whether he is sent at his own request, he is promoted by a lance, and becomes a captain at the age of 25. Eight years later, in the Franco-Prussian war, he is chief of a battalion, and at the end of the campaign, colonel. In 1890 he is brigadier general, and as such joins the expedition against the Chinese at Yankow. In 1894 he commands general division, and commands the army of occupation dispatched to Tonkin."

The command last mentioned was given him upon his retirement from the military of war, a post which he again filled in 1896. But he was indisposed in his utterances, advocating preparation for a war of revenge upon Germany, and his removal from both the war office and from his rank in the army was thought necessary. But he was not dismayed, and he persisted in standing for election on several occasions, always, when victorious, being denied admission to the assembly, until now he is returned by so overwhelming a vote that it will be a difficult thing for the government to deny him the seat to which he is elected.

Sober-minded Frenchmen distrust Boulanger. Professedly a radical republican and a hot advocate of the expulsion of the princes from France, he yet acknowledged his indebtedness to the Duc d'Aumale, his superior officer, for favors bestowed. He is suspected of contemplating a coup d'etat which shall make him dictator, and without doubt should he ever have the power he would embroil the country with Germany. He is a cousin of the radical Clemenceau. His recent efforts to obtain a divorce in order that he might marry an actress of more notoriety than reputation has brought him into more prominence.

Events of the near future in France will be watched with interest. The resignation of the ministers is almost sure to take place within a few days. Carnot may, but more likely will not, be able to find another cabinet which can weather the storm in the legislative assembly. The perils of the republic are great.

The New York World, in the course of a brief article on the anti-Mason crusade of 1826 and a few subsequent years, says: "The excitement over William Morgan's disappearance was intense, and resulted in the organization of an anti-Masonic party, which in 1831 nominated William Wirt, of Maryland, for the presidency. His fate has never been satisfactorily ascertained." For the World's information it may be stated here that there never was any mystery about the fate of William Wirt. He died a natural death in Washington, D. C., in the year 1834.

The surest of the sure-thing gamblers in Helena was giving the legislature, yesterday, the benefit of his large knowledge about faro and round-table poker, which he explained, were far from giving players a fair chance for their money. Conceding that faro is an unfair game, that would be no reason why the legislature should spare the robbing devices which thrive on upper Main street. The members cannot afford to be advised by sure-thing gamblers.

As is stated in the local columns of today's INDEPENDENT, there is a lively prospect that a woolen mill will be established in the city of Helena at an early day. The gentlemen who compose the corporation which has the enterprise in contemplation are possessed of ample means, and their public spirit has been attested on more occasions than one. The mill is already an assured fact, and its early erection may be looked for.

The Corvallis New Idea says, whether with pride or in commiseration of the be-

nighted condition of its contemporaries is hard to tell, that it "is the only newspaper in Missoula county that entertains the opinion that the county will be divided at this session of the legislature." But what is more startling and shows an utter recklessness of consequences, the New Idea man declares that "it is our judgment that we will be divided and we propose to stand by our opinion with bull-dog tenacity." It is, however, an open question if there is enough of "we" to be divided.

ANTI-GAMBLING AGITATION.

A meeting is to be held this evening at the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association to give form to a desire among a large class of citizens of Helena to express publicly and collectively their approval of the recommendations in Gov. Leslie's message upon the subject of gambling and Sunday observance laws. Many good citizens, whose opinions are entitled to the greatest respect and consideration, agree with the governor in his belief that a law should be passed prohibiting gambling in any form, and hold that the territory has no moral right to countenance games of chance or to raise a revenue from the licensing of such games. The territorial house of representatives, by passing the Hunt bill, has indicated that it does not believe the time has yet come for the enactment of a prohibitive statute because, as members stated on the floor of the house in the course of the debate upon the bill, public sentiment would not back up the enforcement of such a statute. If the gentlemen who are to meet to-morrow can convince the legislature of its mistake, a prohibitive law may yet be passed.

The meeting called for to-morrow evening is merely preliminary to a larger assemblage, which, it is expected, will take the form of a mass meeting. The gentlemen who have it in charge are earnest in their purpose, and are confident of demonstrating to the legislature that it is mistaken as to the lack of powerful public sentiment against gambling in any form.

Winter Excursions to California.

On the 15th day of every month the Northern Pacific Railroad company will sell excursion tickets to San Francisco and return at \$75; to Los Angeles and return \$84. These tickets have an extreme limit of six months from date of issuance and can be used going any time within sixty (60) days from date of sale. Stop-overs allowed at any point en route, or returning—within limit of ticket. Excursionists have choice of two routes from Portland by steam, or by rail, via the famous Mount Shasta route.

Keep in mind that the Northern Pacific is the only line running through sleeping and dining cars to the Pacific coast.

Excursion Rates East.

The Union Pacific railway company will sell excursion tickets from Helena to Council Bluffs, Omaha, St. Joseph, Leavenworth and Kansas City from Jan. 29 to Feb. 1, inclusive, for \$40 for the round trip, good ninety days from date of sale.

Cure for Sick Headache.

If you want a remedy for biliousness, pimples in the face, and a sure cure for sick headache, ask R. S. Hale & Co., the druggists, for a free sample of Dr. Gunn's Liver Pills. Only one for a dose; full box 25 cents.

Job Work.

The Independent job rooms are now the most complete in the territory. Within the past few weeks we have received a complete line of new type, and are now prepared to do both plain and fancy work on the shortest notice.

THE MARKETS.

STOCKS.
New York, Jan. 28.—Bar silver, 95. Copper—Nominal; Lake, February, \$16.20. The stock market was again very dull to-day, except at the opening and at the close. Prices on the average were higher than the final figure of Saturday. The close was active and strong. Government bonds quiet but strong. Petroleum opened at 97 3/4, but after the first sale the market became dull and closed steady at 97.

Government bonds, 4 1/2, 4 3/4, 109. Northern Pacific, 94 1/2; preferred, 95 1/2; common, 94 1/2. Union Pacific, 94 1/2; preferred, 95 1/2; common, 94 1/2. Money on call 1 1/2 per cent. Last loan 2. Prime mercantile paper, 4 1/2. Sterling exchange quiet and steady. Sixty-day bill, \$1.05 1/2; ninety-day, \$1.06 1/2.

LIVER STOCK.
Chicago, Jan. 28.—Cattle—Receipts, 10,000; market, steady; butchers' stock, \$12.00; heavy, \$12.50; light, \$12.00. Hogs—Receipts, 10,000; market, steady; mixed, \$4.75; heavy, \$4.85; light, \$4.65. Sheep—Receipts, 10,000; market, steady; heavy, \$3.00; medium, \$2.85; light, \$2.75. Western corn-fed, \$4.00; local, \$3.95.

CHICAGO PRODUCE.
Chicago, Jan. 28.—Close—Wheat—Weak and lower; cash and February, 94; May, 94 1/2; July, 95; September, 95 1/2. Corn—Steady; cash, 54 1/2; February, 55; May, 55 1/2; July, 56; September, 56 1/2. Pork—Steady; cash and February, \$11.48; May, \$11.50; July, \$11.52; September, \$11.54. Lard—Steady; cash, \$9.50; February, \$9.57 1/2; May, \$9.60; July, \$9.62 1/2; September, \$9.65.

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Proposals for Field Seeds.

U. S. Indian Service, Crow Agency, Montana, 1899. Sealed proposals will be received at the Crow Agency, Montana, until one o'clock of Feb. 27th, 1899, for furnishing and delivering at the Crow Agency, Mont., about 50,000 pounds seed corn; 5,000 pounds seed oats; 25,000 pounds seed potatoes; 4,000 pounds seed wheat.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check on some U. S. depository for at least 5 per cent of the amount of the proposal, which check or draft will be forfeited to the U. S. in case any bidder or bidders receiving an award shall fail to promptly execute a contract with good and safe seed material; otherwise to be returned to the bidder. For further information apply to the undersigned.

R. F. BRISCOE, U. S. Indian Agent.

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Follows the use of Syrup of Figs, as it acts gently on the

KIDNEYS, LIVER & BOWELS

Effectually Cleansing the System when Constipated or Bilious, Dispel

Colds, Headaches and Fevers

and permanently curing

HABITUAL CONSTIPATION

without weakening or irritating the organs on which it acts.

For Sale in 50c and \$1.00 Bottles by all Leading Druggists.

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OF HELENA.

Pioneer National Bank

OF MONTANA.

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Designated Depository of the

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Paid-Up Capital - \$500,000

Surplus and Profits - 500,000

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K. W. KNIGHT, Cashier

T. H. KLEINSMIDT, Asst. Cashier

GEO. H. HILL, Second Asst. Cashier

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T. H. Kleinsmidt, Henry M. Parnell,

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General BANKING Business

transacted. 10% interest paid on time deposits.

MERCHANTS

National Bank

OF

HELENA.

Paid in Capital - \$150,000

Surplus and Profits - 100,000

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Thos. Cruse Savings Bank

OF HELENA.

Incorporated Under the Laws of Montana.

Paid in Capital, \$100,000.

THOS. CRUSE, President

T. H. CARTER, Vice President

A. G. CLARK, Secretary

C. L. DAHLER, Treasurer

Allows 6 per cent. interest on Savings

Deposits, compounded January and July.

MONTANA

NATIONAL BANK,

HELENA, MONTANA.

UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY.

CAPITAL - \$250,000

SURPLUS - \$50,000

DIRECTORS:

C. A. BROADWATER, President

G. H. PHELPS, Vice-Pres. and Act. Cash'r

S. R. ATKINSON, Assistant Cashier

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UNITED STATES, CANADA AND EUROPE.

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Office corner 4th avenue and Main Street.

Sole of Warrants.

Neal proposals for the purchase of city war-

rents bearing 7 per cent interest to the amount of

\$10,000 will be received at my office in the Court

House until Thursday, January 31st, 1899, at 12

o'clock meridian.

R. F. BARRETT,

City Treasurer.

Helena, Jan. 28th, 1899.

A. J. Davidson & Co.,

Incorporated. Jobbers and Dealers in

Agricultural Implements,

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